

If a person is using equipment that is provided free of charge to the person then the provider should be able to program the equipment to connect to its service only. Similar to you get a free phone from a wireless provider then you have to use their service.

However, if a consumer has equipment of their own which was purchased or given to them not related to a provider then all providers should be able to accept calls from this equipment given the current standards of video connection (H.323, SIP) Similar to a person going to Radio Shack, purchasing a phone and then taking it to a wireless carrier of their choice.

Providers would have little incentive to invest in expensive research and development if there was no reward.

Important though, providers should not be allowed to alter a person's equipment (i.e. router) so that all other providers would be blocked without the explicit consent of the person.